Total Maximum Daily Load Progress Report	
Regional Water Board	**Central Coast, Region 3**
Beneficial uses affected:	MUN
Pollutant(s) addressed:	Nitrate-Nitrogen
Implemented through:	NPDES Permit, MS4 Permit, WDR Waiver
Approval date:	August 4, 2006

San Luis Obispo Creek Nutrients TMDL

STATUS

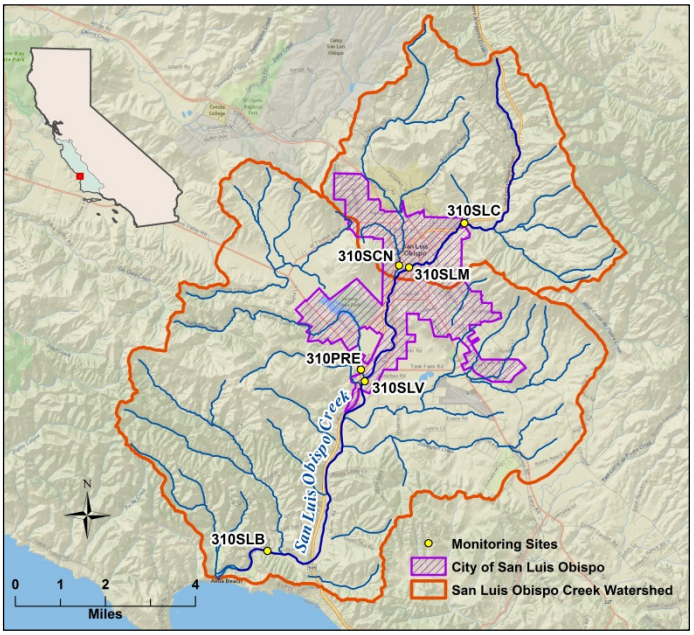
- ☐ Conditions Improving
- ☐ Data Inconclusive
- ☑ **Improvement Needed**
- ☐ TMDL Achieved/Waterbody Delisted

TMDL Summary

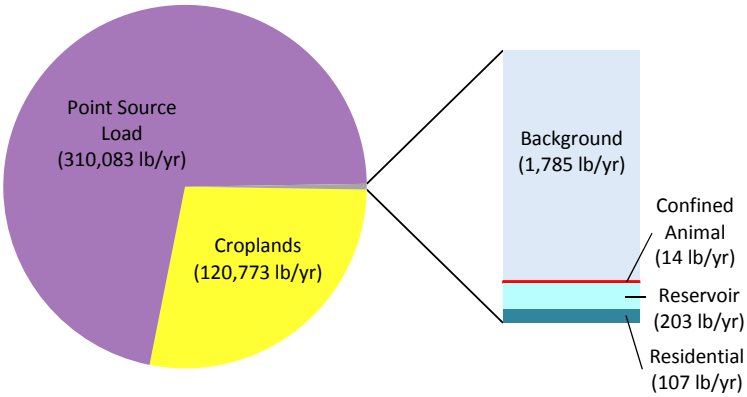
San Luis Obispo Creek is on the 2010 Clean Water Act section 303(d) list of impaired waters for nutrients. San Luis Obispo Creek's nitrate-nitrogen levels exceed Basin Plan objectives for the protection of the municipal water supply beneficial use (MUN). Wastewater discharge, urban stormwater, and agriculture were identified as the primary sources of nutrients. The Central Coast Water Board adopted a TMDL for nutrients in San Luis Obispo Creek that went in effect August 2006.

The TMDL established a numeric target of 10 mg/L nitrate-N, equal to the existing Basin Plan water quality objective. The TMDL established an implementation plan to achieve the TMDL through the use of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, MS4 permits, and Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) for irrigated lands. The TMDL implementation schedule calls for achieving nutrient levels in San Luis Obispo Creek by 2012.

San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed



Annual Nitrate-N Conditions by Source Category

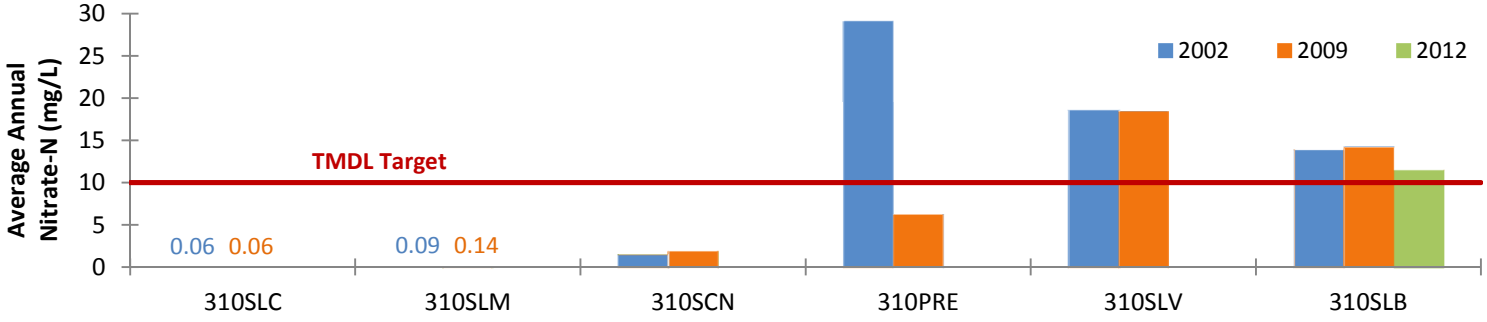


Total annual load is 432,964 lb NO_3-N/yr.

Water Quality Outcomes

- *Water quality data demonstrate that the nitrate-N objectives are not being met in San Luis Obispo Creek.*
- *Water quality data for Prefumo Creek (310PRE), a San Luis Obispo Creek tributary, show significant improvement from 2002 to 2009.*
- *The City of San Luis Obispo NPDES permit will be revised to include a WRF discharge requirement to meet the TMDL nitrate-nitrogen numeric target.*
- *Continue implementation actions to reduce/eliminate nitrate-N loading from agriculture operations in the San Luis Obispo Creek watershed.*
- *Cal Poly recently enrolled in the stormwater program to achieve compliance with TMDL implementation actions.*

San Luis Obispo Creek Water Quality



Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF) effluent discharge enters creek between stations 310PRE and 310 SLV.

See Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP) Website for additional water quality monitoring data.

Updated September 2013

Please answer the questions below.

NOTE: *The information below will* ***not*** *be posted; it will be used to prioritize implementation actions and to develop US EPA Measure W and Success Story Reports.*

1. Provide watershed location by Hydrologic Unit(s) (HUC) at HUC 12 level.
   - HUC 12: 180600060503
   - HUC 12: 180600060504

2. List the Major Stakeholder Groups (e.g. Ag, Stormwater, etc.) Include SWRCB and RWQCB programs.

   City San Luis Obispo, California Polytechnic State University, County of San Luis Obispo, Central coast Water Board (Ag, Stormwater, Nonpoint Source)

3. Provide the following information for each implementation action taken:

Implementation Action	Result of Implementation Action	Action Taken By (Y/N)		
		Discharger	319 Staff	Non-319 Water Board Staff
Agriculture Conditional Waiver of WDRs	Improved water quality in San Luis Obispo Creek	Y	Y	Y
Cal Poly - MS4 Permit	Enrollment scheduled for July 2013	N		Y
City of San Luis Obispo - MS4 Permit	Enrolled and reporting	Y		Y
City of San Luis Obispo - Amendment of NPDES Permit Requirements	Reduced nitrate-N concentration in effluent discharge from WRF. Improved water quality on the main stem of San Luis Obispo Creek	Y		Y
County of San Luis Obispo - MS4 Permit	Enrolled and reporting	Y		Y

4. Has the State devoted any resources to these implementation actions?

Funding Resource	Yes	No
CWA 319(h) Grant Project Funds		X
Prop 84, 50, 40, 13, etc. funds	X	
State Revolving Fund		X
Other (Please specify funding source) _____		X

5. Have the Dischargers devoted any private resources to these implementation actions? (Briefly describe sources of funds).
   Yes.
   The City conducts effluent monitoring, in stream monitoring and reports to the Water Board monthly.

   City used SEP funds for environmental restoration in the watershed.

6. What are the next steps based upon results described in question #3?

Next/Needed Steps	Expected Execution	By Whom
Revise City of SLO NPDES Monitoring and Reporting Requirements	2013	Water Board Staff and City staff
Enroll Cal Poly in stormwater program - develop and implement a guidance document	2013	Water Board Staff and Cal Poly staff
Continue implementation of Ag program throughout the watershed	ongoing	Water Board Staff and private parties

Source	NO_3-N load (lb/yr)	Relative NO_3 Contribution (%)
Background	1,785	0.42
Confined Animal	14	0.00
Croplands	120,773	28.26
Reservoir	203	0.05
Residential	107	0.02
Point Source Load	310,083	71.62
Total	**432,964**	**100.0**